

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 11, 2021

Committee Members Present

Lora Taylor, Committee Chair
Hunter Adkins
Patty Anderson, DRTx
Ronnie Browning
Paul Cardarella
Kristen Cox
Mary Durham, Council Chair
Meagan Orsag, TAMU-CDD
Michael Peace
Randell Resneder
Eric Shahid
Kim Torres
Dana Williamson, HHSC,
Title XIX/Medicaid
Nina Zuna, UT-CDS

Guests Present

Eva DeLuna Castro
Kyle Cox
David Dodson
Eva Fletcher
Joey Gidseg
Linda Litzinger
Laura Marquez
Caitlin Mende

Regional Coordinators Present

Morgan Bradley
Rosa Guel
Skyler Mueller
Anthony Ross
Shelby Vaughn
Richard Williams

Staff Members Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive
Director
Scott Daigle
Lauren Gerken
Sabrina Gonzalez
Linda Logan
Stacey Ingram Kaleh
Evan Marczynski
Sylvia Medina
Richard Rendon
Mary Rochford
Koren Vogel
Rosalin Willis

Call to Order

Pursuant to the Governor's March 16, 2020 suspension of certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Public Policy Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities met virtually using the Zoom platform on Thursday, February 11, 2021. Committee Chair Lora Taylor called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. Public Comments

Linda Litzinger of Texas Parent to Parent provided comments concerning Health and Human Services rules implementing SB 1207 of the 86th Texas Legislature. Joey Gidseg, TCDD Policy Fellow at Texas Parent to Parent provided comments on the difficulty that people with disabilities are experiences in obtaining COVID-19 vaccinations.

3. Consideration of October 29, 2020, Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the October 29, 2020, Public Policy Committee meeting and no additions or corrections were noted.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the October 29, 2020, Public Policy Committee meeting.

MADE BY: Hunter Adkins

SECOND: Randell Resneder

The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Lora Taylor discussed her activities of the previous quarter.

5. Member's Quarterly Activities Report

Committee members provided personal updates from the previous quarter regarding involvement in advocacy and other activities.

6. State Budget Presentation: Eva DeLuna Castro

Eva DeLuna Castro, Program Manager at Every Texan, gave a presentation about the state budget. She provided an update on FY 2020 – FY 2021 budget, explaining changes to “all funds” and general revenue from the budget approved in 2019. Castro provided an outlook for the FY 2022 – FY 2023 budget and discussed issues that will shape that budget including highlights from health and human services and education.

7. TCDD Public Policy Priorities for the 87th Texas Legislature

Public Policy Director Scott Daigle led a discussion of the TCDD Public Policy Priorities with respect to the 87th Texas Legislature and provided guidance on ways Council members can participate in advocating for people with disabilities with legislators.

8. State and Federal Policy Update

Public Policy staff members Sabrina Gonzalez, Lauren Gerken, and Linda Logan, and Public Policy Director Scott Daigle provided brief updates on their policy advocacy activities.

9. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were discussed.

10. Other Discussion Items

No other items were brought forth for discussion.

Adjourn

Committee Chair Lora Taylor adjourned the Public Policy Committee at 4:08 PM.